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COMOR-D-48/25

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

20 February 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance  
SUBJECT: LANYARD Target List

1. Attached for the information and reference of COMOR is a memorandum from the Assistant Director, Office of Special Activities/DDR, CIA advising of the predicted effects of the first LANYARD target list and advice for future target lists.

2. It is requested that the COMOR Working Group give this special attention.

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James Q. Reber  
Chairman  
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

Copy 2, 3--State TCO  
4--DIA  
5, 6, 7, 8--DIA TCO  
9--OACSI TCO  
10--ONI TCO  
11, 12--AFNIN TCO  
13, 14--NSA TCO  
15, 16--NRO TCO

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

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COMOR-D-48/25

SUBJECT: LANYARD Target List

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REFERENCE: [REDACTED] (Attachment to COMOR-D-44/22  
dated 5 February 1963)

1. The COMOR priority list for project LANYARD targets was used for mission 8001. I believe this list is a step in the right direction. However, it does have some limitations that can best be evaluated by giving you a short resumé of the camera program.

2. As you know, this mission, being the first in the LANYARD series, is primarily an engineering venture and we hope it will answer many questions that are presently in the minds of those associated with satellite development. For this reason, the first day's program is limited to vertical photography because, through mutual agreement, the roll joint will remain locked until after pass 16. This decision severely limited the first day's capability for coverage of targets as specified on the LANYARD target list.

3. In addition to the above, this mission is limited to the use of descending passes because of the illumination available this time of year.

4. The total number of LANYARD targets provided by COMOR was 225. Due to the limitations outlined in paragraphs 2 and 3 above, as well as the system's limitations, it was only possible to program 106 of the targets for mission 8001 or less than 50 percent.

5. To remove the possibility of recovering the capsule without expending all of the film, passes were evaluated over the latest CORONA targets and additional operations were planned.

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6. For future operations, you should bear in mind that ascending passes will increase the capability approximately 40 percent when maximum illumination permits. However, there are always those targets which cannot be covered due to system's limitations. In addition, some of the operations will be denied because of unfavorable forecast weather. To overcome these difficulties an expansion of the target list geographically would be in the best interest.

7. I bring this matter to your attention to show that the targeting list could be expanded if you and your committee feel national requirements justify it.

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Copy 1--DCI TCO  
17--DCI TCO for USIB/S  
18, 19--Asst/OPS(NPIC)  
20--C/PSD(NPIC)  
21--C/PID(NPIC)  
22--C/CSD(NPIC)  
23--LS/PID(NPIC)  
24--TSO CIA  
25--DDI TCO  
26--OCI TCO  
27, 28--OSI TCO  
29--ORR TCO  
30--DDP TCO  
31--DDR TCO  
32--AD/OSA  
33--OD/OSA  
34--Intel/OSA  
35--SO/OSA  
36--RB/OSA  
37-39--SA/DDR

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